

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MAPUTO 0844

FROM LOW

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, RH
SUBJECT: GRHAM-LOW MEETING WITH BRAND FOURIE

1. GRAHAM AND I WITH AMBASSADOR EDMONSON AND DAVID SUMMERHAYS OF THE BRITISH EMBASSY MET WITH BRAND FOURIE LATE TUESDAY JULY 4, WE WENT OVER SOMEWHAT THE SAME GROUND AS OUR PREVIOUS MEETING WITH HIM BUT THIS TIME WE ARE ABLE TO MARSHALL MORE EVIDENCE OF THE DIFFICULTIES WHICH ARE BEING ENCOUNTERED IN RHODESIA IN BRINGING THE WAR TO AN END AND CREATING SATISFACTORY CONDITIONS FOR AN ELECTION TO TAKE PLACE. FOURIE MAINTAINED THAT HIS INFORMATION INDICATED THAT VIOLATIONS WERE DECREASING IN SOME AREAS AND THERE WAS A DETERMINATION TO PROCEED WITH THE ELECTIONS. HE SAID THAT HE HAD RECEIVED A REPORT THAT SITHOLE AND NKOMO WERE IN CONTACT AND MAY BE WORKING SOMETHING OUT. AS FOR SOUTH AFRICA ITS EFFORTS WERE DIRECTED TOWARD BRINGING NKOMO BACK IN. WE UNDERLINED OUR FEELING THAT NKOMO COULD NOT ACCEPT THE MARCH 3 AGREEMENT. I ADDED THAT I BELIEVED IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR HIM TO COME TO AN UNDERSTANDING WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF SOME OF THE ZANU ELEMENTS FROM MOZAMBIQUE.

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NKOMO PROBABLY WOULD PREFER TO INCLUDE MUGABE AND IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO END THE WAR WITHOUT ZANLA INVOLVEMENT MUGABE MIGHT BE BETTER INSIDE THAN OUT WHERE HE WOULD SERVE AS A POLE FOR OPPOSITION AND FOREIGN SUPPORT. HOWEVER, IF MUGABE REFUSED REASONABLE OFFERS. NKOMO MIGHT BE WILLING TO COME BACK IN TO A NEW AND IMPROVED AGREEMENT IF SOME OF

THE OTHER ZANU ELEMENTS COULD BE BROUGHT ALONG.

2. WE TOLD FOURIE WE WANTED TO EXCHANGE VIEWS
WITH HIM NOW, WE WERE ASKING FOR NO PARTICULAR
ACTION. WE EXPLAINED THE POSSIBILITY IN GENERAL TERMS OF A MEETING
AT TOP LEVEL OF THE VARIOUS PARTIES. WE SAID THAT SHOULD SUCH
A THING BECOME POSSIBLE, WE WOULD HOPE THAT SOUTH AFRICA
SUPPORT WITH SMITH OUR OWN VIEW THAT SIGNIFICANT
CHANGES WOULD HAVE TO BE MADE IN THE MARCH 3
AGREEMENT. WE MENTIONED SPECIFICALLY THE 28
WHITE VOTES AND A BLOCKING MECHANISM
CONTAINED IN THE PRESENT CONSTITUTION WHICH
FOURIE HIMSELF FEELS INEFFECTIVE AS A REASSURANCE
TO WHITES. HE AGREED WITH MY VIEW THAT
THE WAY TO GET WHITES TO STAY IS TO END THE WAR AND
STIMULATE ECONOMIC PROGRESS RATHER THAN BY CONSTITUTIONAL
ARRANGEMENTS WHICH WILL PROBABLY NOT
LAST.

3. FOURIE SAID HE APPRECAITED OUR COMING BY FOR A
DISCUSSION AND RENEWED HIS INVITATION FOR A MEAL
AT A FUTURE DATE.
DE PREE

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